Leaders Committee

Developing a pan-London infrastructure framework

Item no: 8

Report by: Dianna Neal **Job title:** Strategic Lead: Enterprise, Economy and Skills

Date: 13 December 2022

Contact Officer: Dianna Neal

Telephone: 020 7934 9819 **Email:** Dianna.Neal@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary:	This paper provides an update on developing a pan-London infrastructure framework, which is a key project within London Councils' Shared Ambitions and the London Economic Framework. It also outlines the next steps to complete the project.
Recommendations:	Leaders Committee is asked to note and comment on this report.

Developing a pan-London infrastructure framework

Background and context

1. In January 2021 London Councils commissioned Metro Dynamics to develop a strategic approach to economic recovery across London. The resulting report included a recommendation to develop a London wide local infrastructure plan and a project prioritisation framework. Other cities across the UK have such a plan and it was considered important for attracting the necessary investment in London's infrastructure at a time when government support is likely to be limited.

2. This work informed the economic framework for London developed by London Councils and the GLA, which included a commitment to develop a pan-London infrastructure framework. London Councils Shared Ambitions also set out a commitment to 'Develop London's infrastructure proposition via an infrastructure plan… and Opportunity London'.

3. The intention is to have a clear set investment-ready propositions to be able to take to the market, including to key annual events like MIPIM. The framework will strengthen the London Councils' activities to promote investment opportunities across all parts of London, as part of Opportunity London. Opportunity London is a co-ordinated campaign to attract investment in infrastructure and housing to London and across all London boroughs.

4. London Councils has appointed Metro Dynamics[1] to lead the development of the framework, working closely with boroughs, sub-regional partnerships (SRPs), the GLA and Transport for London (TfL). The framework will also draw on the work of the Cities Commission for Climate Investment (3Ci).

Objectives of the framework

5. The framework will aim to:

- Articulate a clear and shared view of infrastructure projects with strategic value for London

- Develop a compelling narrative that sets out a clear vision for the role for infrastructure in building an inclusive and sustainable economy

---

[1] Metro Dynamics (MD) is a consultancy advising those who lead, invest or do business in local economies.

- Identify new partnership approaches and financing solutions to delivering major projects in a complex financial and political context

- Build up stakeholder support and buy-in to the process and its outputs, including from GLA, SRPs, and individual boroughs to project a collective image that London is a positive place to do business.

6. The product should be a map of investment-ready and strategically important projects across London, alongside options for funding and financing projects. This is an ambitious project if we are to secure buy-in from boroughs, SRPs, the GLA and TfL.

Progress to date

7. Following discussions with key stakeholders, the project will use the National Infrastructure Commission definition of infrastructure: transport, energy and waste, digital and data and water and flood management. The framework will have greater emphasis on infrastructure needed to enable strategic housing development as well as employment sites.

8. The following broad principles have been set out to start to identify those projects to include in the framework:

- Embed sustainability, decarbonisation, and climate resilience in their approach, contributing in the medium to long-term to London's net zero journey

- Have either a multi-borough footprint or a multi-borough impact (e.g. unlocking wider development or employment opportunities)

- Unlock significant employment and/or housing sites

- Enable the delivery of unutilised planning consents

- Enhance the relationship between infrastructure delivery and strategic spatial planning

- Be sufficiently developed as to indicate their deliverability, even if specific funding requirements are outstanding**.**

9. A call for projects went out to boroughs via the four Sub-Regional Partnerships (SRPs) during October and November. This was to ensure that the process of developing the framework builds on previous work that SRPs have carried out in identifying strategically significant infrastructure projects across their areas. The

project will also draw on schemes already submitted for the 3Ci work on net zero project pipelines. Boroughs have submitted 165 projects to date through the call out. Metro Dynamics are working through these projects, plus relevant projects received via the 3Ci pipeline work, to identify which to include in the framework, whether any further information on these is needed and looking at different infrastructure types and geographical spread.

Next steps

10. The main next steps for the project are:

- Project sifting to start to build the framework

- Developing the narrative for the framework, including the spatial narrative and mapping

- Invite all borough Leaders and Mayors to an in-person session on 17 January 2023 to discuss the proposed projects to include in framework, how they are categorised and presented and to test out the overall and spatial narrative. This would use part of the London Councils Executive meeting scheduled on this date.

- Investment, delivery, and funding thinking including expert input and investor engagement in mid-January 2023.

11. Throughout the project there will be continued iteration with key stakeholders, including Leaders/Mayors. The framework should be finalised by March 2023.

Recommendations

12. Leaders Committee is asked to note and comment on this report.

Financial implications for London Councils

None

Legal implications for London Councils

None

Equalities implications for London Councils

None